(vii) by recommending the maximum and minimum prices to be fixed for copra ;

(viii) by advising on all matters which require attention for the development of the industry :

(ix) by improving the marketing of cocoanuts in India and abroad and suggesting suitable measures to prevent unfair competition ; and

(x) by adopting any other measures or performing any other duties which it may be required by the Central Government to adopt or perform or which it may itself think necessary or advisable in order to carry out the purposes of the Indian Cocoanut Committee Act 1944.

(*b*) The Committee has not authorised publication of its proceedings.

(*c*) The matter is under the consideration of the Indian Central Cocoanut Committee.

Cultivation of Cotton.

156. * **Mr. K. A. Raman Pillai :** Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether a scheme has been sanctioned by Government for the cultivation of cotton ;

(*b*) if so, what are the areas selected for the cultivation of cotton in the country ; and

(*c*) what progress has been made so far in regard to the cultivation of cotton ?

Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) In South Travancore round about Aramboly where cotton will grow very well.

(*c*) Two crops of cotton have been raised in about 40 acres of land during the current year. The yield works out on an average to about 250 lbs. of medium staple *kapas* per acre which should be considered a good yield under unirrigated conditions. Selected cotton seeds have been distributed for cultivation among a few leading cultivators in that area.

Mr. K. A. Raman Pillai : May I know what is the soil suitable for the cultivation of cotton ?

Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar : A light red earth where the rainfall is comparatively less.

Village Unions.

157. * **Mr. Paul A. Thaliath :** Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) the number of Village Unions working in the State as on 15-12-1120 ;

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